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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM President's Lecture Series begins Sept. 11" (2007). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 20575.
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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 29, 2007

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UM PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES BEGINS SEPT. 11

MISSOULA—

The first installment of the 2007-08 President's Lecture Series at The University of Montana will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, in the University Theatre.

"What is at Stake in Afghanistan?" will be presented by Barnett Rubin, director of studies and senior fellow at the Center on International Cooperation, New York University.

Rubin, a leading authority on Afghanistan, will discuss the deteriorating situation in that country and its effects on the United States.

The presentation is UM's Ezio Cappadocia Memorial Lecture on Politics and History.

Earlier that day from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m., Rubin will give a seminar titled "The Wars in Afghanistan: The Post-Imperial Transformation of a Regional State System" in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Rubin is a founder and serves as deputy chair of the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum, established in 2000 to strengthen the knowledge base and analytical capacity of the United Nations for conflict prevention and management via a systematic channel to outside experts.

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During 2001 talks on Afghanistan in New York City and Bonn, Germany, he was senior adviser to Lakhdar Brahimi, U.N. special representative of the secretary-general for Afghanistan.

He earned a master's degree from Yale University and a doctoral degree from the University of Chicago and has taught political science courses at Yale and Columbia universities.

Among his many books are "The Fragmentation of Afghanistan: State Formation and Collapse in the International System," "Blood on the Doorstep: The Politics of Preventing Deadly Conflict" and "The Search for Peace in Afghanistan: From Buffer State to Failed State."

Rubin also is co-editor of "Towards a New Constitution for Afghanistan," published in 2003.

From 1978 to 2001, he served as a consultant to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in drafting the Mapping Exercise on Human Rights Violations in Afghanistan.

The complete 2007-08 President's Lecture Series schedule is online at <http://www.umt.edu/president/pls>.

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